

WHAT I CLAIM IS:

1. An ear cover for covering, protecting, and holding a folded ear on a person's head in a forwardly folded condition while the hair on the person's head is being treated, said cover comprising:

flexible fluid impervious strip shield means for covering and holding the ear in a forwardly folded condition including

central non-adhesive ear engaging means, having a length and width sufficient to cover the folded ear when laid thereover, for bearing against the folded ear in said forwardly folded condition; and

border strip adhesive means surrounding said central non-adhesive ear engaging means for adhesively sealing to a portion of the person's head surrounding the ear.

2. The ear cover set forth in claim 1 wherein said strip shield means includes a flexible, water impervious strip having a mid-portion for mounting said central ear engaging portion, said border strip adhesive means being integral with said mid-portion.

3. The ear cover set forth in claim 2 wherein said central ear engaging non-adhesive portion comprises a central pad.

4. The ear cover set forth in claim 3 wherein said central pad comprises open cell material; said mid-portion including an aperture therethrough aligned with a portion of said strip of open cell material.

5. The ear cover set forth in claim 1 wherein said central ear engaging means comprises:

an ear engaging padded sheet having an

inner face for bearing against the folded ear, and
an outer face;
said border strip adhesive means including
fluid impervious and heat resistant sheet means having
an inner face with a central portion mounting said ear engaging padded
sheet, and
a perimetrically extending border portion provided with pressure sensitive
adhesive means for sealing to the skin of the person's head surrounding the folded ear.

6. The ear cover set forth in claim 5 wherein said fluid impervious and heat resistant
sheet means further includes a laminate comprising a sheet and a heat shield
sandwiched between said outer face of said ear engaging padded sheet and said fluid
impervious sheet.

7. The ear cover set forth in claim 6 wherein said heat shield and said fluid impervious
sheet are generally bell shaped.

8. The ear cover set forth in claim 7 wherein said ear engaging padded sheet is
generally rectangular.

9. The ear cover set forth in claim 8 wherein said fluid impervious sheet includes an
opening therethrough and said heat shield spans said opening.

10. The ear cover set forth in claim 1 wherein said central ear engaging non-adhesive
means is generally rectangular with a first predetermined width and height and said
border strip adhesive means has an upper portion of a second predetermined width
greater than said first predetermined width and a lower portion of a third predetermined
width substantially greater than said second predetermined breadth.

11. An ear cover for covering, protecting, and holding a folded ear of a person's head in a forwardly folded condition while the hair on the person's head is being treated, said cover comprising:

an ear engaging sheet of thin flexible non-adhesive material for bearing against the folded ear and including a perimetrical edge; and

a mounting sheet of thin flexible material mounted on said ear engaging sheet and having an adhesive border portion coupled to, but projecting outwardly beyond said perimetrical edge for adhesively sealing to a portion of person's head adjacent the folded ear.

12. The ear cover set forth in claim 11 wherein said ear engaging sheet has a predetermined width and a predetermined height substantially greater than said predetermined width.

13. The ear cover set forth in claim 12 wherein said mounting sheet is fluid impervious.

14. The ear cover set forth in claim 13 including a heat resistant sheet of material sandwiched between said ear engaging sheet and said mounting sheet for protecting the folded ear.

15. The ear protector set forth in claim 14 wherein said mounting sheet has an opening therethrough, said heat resistant sheet spanning said opening and being coupled to said adhesive border portion.

16. The ear protector set forth in claim 13 wherein said mounting sheet comprises a layer of material having opposing faces; one of said faces being coated with a layer of adhesive; said layer of material having an upper portion of a predetermined width and a lower portion of a greater predetermined breadth.

17. The ear protector set forth in claim 14 wherein said ear engaging sheet includes a first predetermined width and a first predetermined height substantially greater than said first predetermined width; said heat resistant sheet having a second predetermined height greater than said first predetermined height, and includes

an upper portion having a second predetermined width greater than said first predetermined width, and

a lower portion having a third predetermined width greater than said second predetermined width.

18. The ear protector set forth in claim 17 wherein said mounting sheet includes an upper portion having a fourth predetermined width greater than said second predetermined width but less than said third predetermined width and a lower portion having a fourth predetermined breadth greater than said third predetermined breadth.

19. The ear protector set forth in claim 14 wherein said mounting sheet and said heat resistant sheet each have a bell shape.

20. The ear protector set forth in claim 19 wherein said mounting sheet has a bell shaped opening therethrough.

21. The ear protector set forth in claim 11 wherein said adhesive border portion includes adhesive means completely surrounds said ear engaging sheet for completely sealing to the person's head to seal said perimetrical edge against the passage of fluids to the folded ear.

22. The ear protector set forth in claim 21 wherein said ear engaging sheet comprises a layer of porous material.

23. The ear protector set forth in claim 21 wherein said ear engaging sheet comprises a layer of open cell material.

24. An ear cover for covering, protecting, and holding a folded ear of a person's head in a forwardly folded condition while the hair on the person's head is being treated, said cover comprising:

- an ear engaging flexible sheet of material having

- a first perimetrical border portion,

- an inner face for bearing against the folded ear, and

- an outer face;

- a mounting sheet of fluid impervious material having

- an inner face,

- a central portion for mounting said outer face of said ear engaging sheet,

and

- a second perimetrical border portion provided with a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive projecting outwardly of said first perimetrical border portion for sealing the ear engaging sheet in fluid impervious to the users head surrounding the ear.

25. The ear cover set forth in claim 24 further including a heat shield sheet sandwiched between said ear engaging sheet and said mounting sheet.

26. An ear cover laminate for covering protecting, and holding a folded ear on a person's head in a forwardly folded condition while the hair on the person's head is being treated, said cover comprising:

- an ear engaging sheet of open cell material having

an inner face for bearing against the folded ear and

an outer face; and

fluid impervious and heat resistant sheet means having an inner face with a central portion for mounting said ear engaging sheet and a perimetrically extending border portion provided with pressure sensitive adhesive means for sealing in water impervious relation to the skin of the user's head completely around the folded ear.

27. The ear cover laminate set forth in claim 26 wherein said sheet means includes a laminate comprising

a fluid impervious sheet, and

a heat resistant sheet of material sandwiched between said outer face of said ear engaging sheet and said fluid impervious sheet.

28. The ear cover laminate set forth in claim 27 wherein said ear engaging sheet has a rectangular shape and said heat resistant sheet and said fluid impervious sheet are bell shaped.

29. The ear cover laminate set forth in claim 28 wherein said water impervious sheet includes an opening therethrough and said heat resistant sheet is water impervious and spans said opening.

30. An ear cover for covering, protecting, and holding a folded ear on a person's head in a forwardly folded condition while the hair on the person's head is being treated, said cover comprising:

an ear engaging sheet for bearing against and covering the folded ear; and

means for mounting the ear engaging sheet in fluid impervious relation to the skin of the person's head surrounding the ear comprising a sheet of fluid impervious

material having a central portion for mounting said ear engaging sheet and a perimetrically extending border portion for surrounding the ear, said border portion including a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive for sealing to the skin of the person's head surrounding the ear.

31. The ear cover set forth in claim 30 further including a sheet of flexible heat resistant material sandwiched between said ear engaging sheet and said water impervious sheet.

32. An ear cover for covering, protecting, and holding a folded ear on a person's head in a forwardly folded condition while the hair on the person's head is being treated, said cover comprising:

fluid impervious, heat resistant, flexible sheet means having inner and outer faces;

said inner face having a central mounting portion and a perimetrical border portion provided with a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive for sealing to the skin of a person's head surrounding the ear; and

an ear engaging flexible sheet of non-adhesive material mounted on said central mounting portion for bearing against the folded ear.

33. The ear cover set forth in claim 32 wherein said sheet means comprises a laminate including a water impervious sheet and a heat shield sandwiched between said ear engaging sheet and said fluid impervious sheet.

34. The ear cover set forth in claim 33 wherein said heat shield has a predetermined breadth and said fluid impervious sheet has a greater predetermined breadth.

35. The ear cover set forth in claim 34 wherein said fluid impervious sheet includes an opening therethrough and said heat shield spans said opening and is sealed to said border portion.

36. An ear cover for covering, protecting, and holding a folded ear on a person's head in a forwardly folded condition while the hair on the person's head is being treated, said cover comprising:

- an ear engaging flexible sheet sized to cover and bear against the person's folded ear; and

- a fluid impervious flexible mounting sheet including

- a central portion for mounting the ear engaging sheet, and

- a perimetrical border portion surrounding said central portion and

including a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive thereon for sealing in fluid impervious relation to a portion of the person's head surrounding the ear.

37. A method of covering and protecting the external ear, including a pinna supporting a helix on a person's head, while the hair on the person's head is being treated with fluid comprising the steps of:

- forwardly folding the helix of the pinna over on itself;

- applying a shield over the folded ear; and

- adhesively sealing the shield to the portion of the person's head surrounding the ear to preclude any hair treating fluid from reaching the external ear.

38. The method set forth in claim 37 wherein the step of adhesively sealing is accomplished by sealing a portion of the shield to a portion of the person's head

rearward of the ear and thereafter sealing a portion of the shield to a portion of the person's head forward of the ear.